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COMIREX Min

COMIREX-M-48

Approved per
M-49 on 26 Sept 68

COMMITTEE ON IMAGERY REQUIREMENTS AND EXPLOITATION
NRO & DIA REVIEWS COMPLETED

COMIREX-M-48
13 September 1968

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downgrading and declassification

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COMMITTEE ON IMAGERY REQUIREMENTS AND EXPLOITATION

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Minutes of Meeting Held in Auditorium
[Redacted]
1000-1300, Thursday, 13 September 1968

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PRESIDING

[Redacted]

Chairman

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MEMBERS PRESENT

[Redacted]

Col. C. C. Clayton, OACSI
Cdr. J. J. Richardson, ONI

Col. R. W. Kane, AFNIN

[Redacted]

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CONSULTANTS PRESENT

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Special BriefingsNPIC Status Report on Bi-Color Experiment

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1. [] noted that the first KH-4 bi-color experiment had been on Mission 1102. This had been very embryonic and the first extended test had been on Mission 1103 when bi-color was used on 25 operational passes. On Mission 1104, bi-color was used on one operational pass and four domestic passes. [] continued with the observation that the problems of image quality encountered on 1104 probably had been due to flaws in the filter. He then noted that there are real problems in correcting pan photography for bi-color use.

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2. [] advised COMIREX that they are still experimenting with printing techniques and had not completed evaluation of which is best suited to the bi-color experiments. Once this has been decided, ten or twelve selected targets will be printed out and given to the PIs for their evaluation.

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[] showed examples of 4X and 7X blow-ups noting that the imagery in the 7X blow-up still holds up pretty well. He observed that there would be no real gain in trying further enlargements as the 35 foot to 30 foot resolution appears to be adequate for bi-color purposes, at least for the time being. [] did observe, while illustrating the ability to detect color differences, that NPIC is sanguine of the possibilities of further improving this and also has some hopes that the resolution may be improved.

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3. In reply to a question from the Chairman as to whether equally or more useful results might not be achieved by using isodensitometers to enhance the content of the black and white records to bring out differences, [] replied that rather than going to color printing the differences and information content could be more easily perceived by color printing.

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Section I (Briefings and Reports on Operations)

Operational Briefing -- Satellite

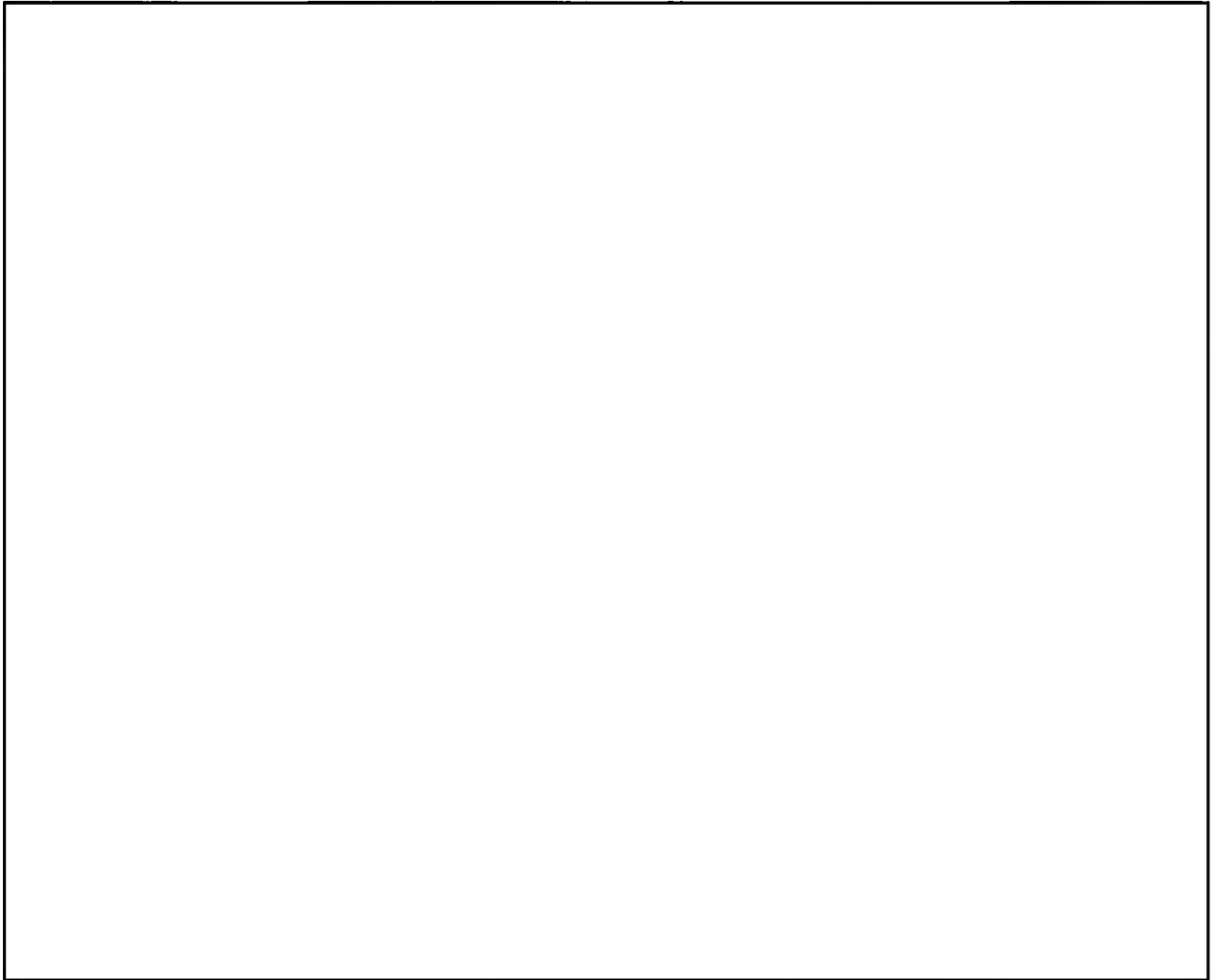
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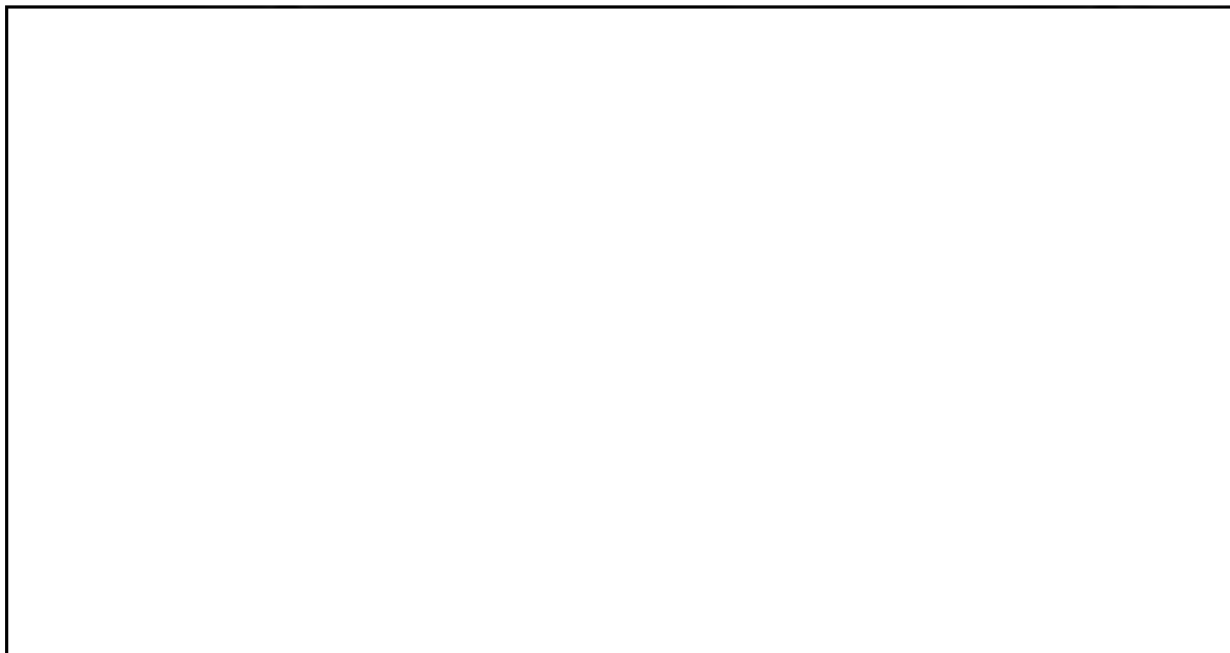
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CORONA

1048 - Scheduled 18 September 1968

Estimated recovery 1st bucket (8 days) - 26 Sept, 2230Z

Estimated recovery 2nd bucket (8 days) - 4 Oct, 2230Z

Film processing/distribution:

Estimated arrival 1st bucket at Eastman Kodak -
27 Sept, 1800Z

Estimated arrival 1st bucket Priority 1 in D.C. -
30 Sept, 1600Z

Estimated arrival 1st bucket Priority 2 in D.C. -
1 Oct, 1600Z

Estimated arrival 2nd bucket at Eastman Kodak -
5 Oct, 1800Z

Estimated arrival 2nd bucket Priority 1 in D.C. -
8 Oct, 1600Z

Estimated arrival 2nd bucket Priority 2 in D.C. -
9 Oct, 1600Z

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Projected stereo coverage:

1st bucket - Land area - 2.95 million sq. n.m.
Targets - Approximately 2,400
2nd bucket - Land area - 2.95 million sq. n.m.
Targets - Approximately 2,400

1105 - Scheduled 30 October 1968

Estimated 1st bucket recovery (9 days) - 8 Nov., 2230Z
Estimated 2nd bucket recovery (9 days) - 17 Nov., 2230Z
Film processing/distribution:

Estimated arrival 1st bucket at Eastman Kodak -
9 Nov, 1800Z
Estimated arrival 1st bucket Priority 1 in D.C. -
12 Nov, 1600Z
Estimated arrival 1st bucket Priority 2 in D.C. -
13 Nov, 1600Z
Estimated arrival 2nd bucket at Eastman Kodak -
18 Nov, 1800Z
Estimated arrival 2nd bucket Priority 1 in D.C. -
21 Nov, 1600Z
Estimated arrival 2nd bucket Priority 2 in D.C. -
22 Nov, 1600Z

Projected stereo coverage:

1st bucket - Land area - 2.95 million sq. n.m.
Targets - Approximately 2,400
2nd bucket - Land area - 2.95 million sq. n.m.
Targets - Approximately 2,400

1106 - Scheduled 11 December 1968

Estimated 1st bucket recovery - 18 December 1968
Estimated 2nd bucket recovery - 26 December 1968

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1049 - Scheduled 29 January 1969

Estimated 1st bucket recovery - 6 February 1969

Estimated 2nd bucket recovery - 14 February 1969

1107 - Scheduled 12 March 1969

Estimated 1st bucket recovery - 21 March 1969

Estimated 2nd bucket recovery - 30 March 1969

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Report on Aircraft Activities -- Far East

2. [] confirmed the standdown of [] and IDEALIST/TACKLE. [] then reported that in the period 6-12 September the following single GIANT SCALE and [] missions had been flown:

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<u>Date</u>	<u>Mission</u>	<u>Area/Targets</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
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GIANT SCALE Activities

8 Sep	GS052	Hon Gai Port, Kep Afld, Yen Bai Afld, Dien Bien Phu, Haiphong Port, Kien An Afld, Gia Lam Afld, Phuc Yen Afld	Results fair
-------	-------	--	--------------

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Activities

11 Sep	Q715 (LOW)	Thanh Hoa Trans Pt, Thanh Hoa RR Bypass, Bai Thuong Afld	Crashed in water during recovery - Film unusable
--------	------------	--	--

Successful - 0
Lost - 1

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3. [] reported action against two principal South China/North Vietnam requirements as follows:

a. Coverage of Lines of Communications (LOC) pertinent to the introduction of Chinese forces into North Vietnam (see COMOR-D-25/207, 4 March 1966.) The number of LOC priority targets in South China and North Vietnam remains at 143. For the period 5-11 September, no surveillance coverage was reported.

b. Coverage of North Vietnam to detect the possible introduction or deployment of offensive missile systems (see COMOR-D-25/200, 23 May 1967 and COMIREX-D-25.3/2, 20 November 1967) is shown on the grid map at Tab B for the period 29 August - 4 September. No SSM activity was observed.

Report on Aircraft Activities -- Cuba

(S)

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4. [] reported [] activities for the period 5-12 September as follows:

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<u>Date</u>	<u>Mission</u>	<u>Results</u>
5 Sep	G041	Recalled, 0.6% coverage
9 Sep	G042	Successful, 42.7% coverage

<u>Recap</u>			
<u>Date</u>	<u>Mission</u>	<u>Net</u>	<u>Cumulative</u>
5 Sep	G041	0.6%	89.7%
9 Sep	G042	42.7%	91.8%

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5. [] reported that during the 56 day period, beginning 18 July 1968, nine [] missions were flown over Cuba and provided 98 percent coverage of the area. During this period 145 of the 148 targets in Cuba were covered completely on cloud-free photography, not including the most recent mission.

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6. The DIA member reported that the delta camera had been made available for the months of September, October, and November. [] confirmed that ICRS has asked for requirements and noted that DIA has already submitted some specific electronic targets for coverage.

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Section II (NPIC Report)

Mission Highlights

(T-KH)

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2. [redacted] showed one picture from 1104 of a new airfield at Ondor Haan, Mongolia. This is the 7th new airfield constructed in Mongolia during the past two years. It is also the fifth staging/recovery type of airfield and it appears that all of these are probably Soviet built and controlled, since Mongolia does not possess high performance aircraft requiring such runways. All of these runways are 10,000 to over 11,000 feet in length.

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3. [] concluded his briefing with several frames of photography from different missions bearing on the introduction of the Wuhu, Yak naval vessels into Haiphong from China. These light harbor cargo craft are built in China. They could be used for several harbor support and other purposes including operations in coastal and open water. Identification of one of these vessels at a reported infiltration pier suggests that personnel infiltration may be one role.

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Section III (Subcommittee and Working Group Reports)

Report from Imagery Collection Requirements Subcommittee

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1. [Redacted] reported that:

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[Redacted]

b. The current status of KH-4 holiday coverage
is:

- | | | |
|-----|------------------------------------|-------|
| (1) | Six months Built Up Area | 69.9% |
| (2) | Twelve Months Under-developed Area | 68.2% |

[Redacted]

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Report from Data Base Working Group

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2. [] reported difficulty in achieving full coordination in the target delineation problem. The Chairman, DBWG, requested earnestly that COMIREX support the effort and insure that the Working Group members fully appreciate how important COMIREX considers this effort to be.

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Section IV (Action Items)

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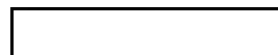


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The Chairman requested [redacted] to study the results of past missions and requested [redacted] and ICRS to address the theoretical problems. In terms of the KH-4, [redacted] observed

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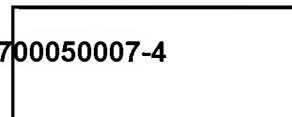
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(12 Sept 68)

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Action on Resource Information Report (COMIREX-D-32.5/1,
TCS-10546/68, 10 September 1968) (S)

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3. [] asked whether as a result of [] memorandum of 10 September, addressed to the Chairman, DBWG, he should take action preliminary to submitting a Resource Information Report and establishing a Resource Information File (RIF). The Chairman ascertained that not all members had seen the memorandum from the Deputy Director, NPIC, so invited him to comment on it.

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[] noted that the Center is in no way opposed to furnishing data for the report and the file but is not certain that the actions proposed in the original memorandum (COMIREX-D-32.5/1) may not be premature. NPIC recognized that COMIREX has an obligation to keep apprised of the proper utilization of resources but feels that in lieu of a report being made from the type of information which could now be supplied to the RIF an alternate approach might be preferable. In the opinion of the Deputy Director, NPIC, it might at this time be more sound to compile information or statistics as to whether requirements are being satisfied substantively and on a timely basis.

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[] suggested that if requirements are not being satisfied COMIREX should then explore the performance of resources and determine whether these resources are being improperly applied or whether there may be some problem with the requirements.

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4. The Chairman referred to problems already discussed during the morning, such as bi-color, the use of CD film, and the problems involved in coverage of underdeveloped areas, and related this to the value of gaining a better appreciation for the mechanics of collection, research, and exploitation. [] fully appreciated

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the inherent dangers of focusing a managerial microscope on portions of an operation and recognized that incomplete or faulty analysis might place figures in the wrong perspective and lead to erroneous conclusions. The Chairman also was well aware that deductions made on the basis of data provided by NPIC would not present the full national picture but he refused to agree that COMIREX would misinterpret partial facts and use them to harm the agency providing such figures. On the other hand, NPIC is essentially national in nature and, although its experience may not provide the full story, other agencies and departments engaged in photo interpretation will find that they have analogous problems and will probably benefit from such information as may be provided to COMIREX by NPIC.

5. The Acting CIA representative advised that his Agency feels strongly that man-hour figures must be meaningful in order for COMIREX to judge whether the workload is properly applied and balanced against the collection effort, or where adjustments in the NTP are necessary. [] cited as an example of the usefulness of these figures the proposed COMIREX report to the Board on the status of the NTP. One might judge from this report that most of the exploitation effort is against SAM's since this category contains the largest number of targets. Man-hour figures if available would likely have shown that this is not the case since SAM reports require comparatively few man-hours. The DIA member agreed in general terms, on the basis that the NTP has allotted to COMIREX the responsibility for judging whether the effort is being properly applied. [] speculated however that as an alternate route to [] desire to study man-hour figures it might be possible to levy exploitation requirements in very specific terms and then require NPIC to state where it could not satisfy requirements; including such explicit details as might be needed. The Deputy Director, NPIC, considered the DIA member's alternative to be a safer route to follow at this time.

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6. The Chairman expressed firmly his feeling of urgency to see facts developed and reported along the lines of the paper which had been on the shelf since late June. [] said COMIREX cannot know the consequence of our demands on overhead reconnaissance, satellites in particular, until COMIREX is provided with a clear picture of the impact on the exploitation effort. The Chairman felt that the present reluctance of NPIC to expose its figures had an analogy in our earlier relations with NRO. For a while efficient tasking of NRO was impeded by its reluctance to provide information which it considered to be operationally sensitive. Since this barrier has been removed, the mutual business between COMIREX and NRO has been conducted on a much more efficient and economical basis.

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7. The Chairman concluded with the request that a Resources Information Report be produced, as soon as feasible, tentatively on a one-time basis. All contributors were requested by the Chairman to supply to the Chairman, DBWG, information along the lines of COMIREX-D-32.5/1. [] would then submit a report as soon as he had sufficient information at hand. [] emphasized that this report would be evaluated in the context of an experiment and there would be no risk that any of the figures provided might be misused. The Chairman specified that although the information outlined in COMIREX-D-32.5/1 should be used as guidance COMIREX was not at this time approving this paper.

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Section V (Status of Recent COMIREX Papers)

Guidelines for Exploitation Tasking and Reporting Under the
National Tasking Plan (COMIREX-D-31.1/1) (UNCL)

1. The Chairman advised that consideration of this paper had been postponed at the request of DIA.

Revision of Annex G of the Sanitization Manual and NATO
Addendum (COMIREX-D-2.7/3) (UNCL)

2. The revision of Annex G and the NATO Addendum were approved by COMIREX. /They have been forwarded as COMIREX-D-2.7/5./

Format for Basic Imagery Interpretation Reports and Briefs
on Objects (UNCL)

3. COMIREX approved the new format for basic reports on objects. /This has been published as COMIREX-D-31.3/8./

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Contingency Planning for Coverage of Vietnam Theater During a
Cease Fire

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6. The Chairman reported that Mr. Rostow had directed to the Secretary of Defense and the Director of CIA a request that a plan for reconnaissance of the Vietnam theater, in a cease fire situation, be prepared. Admiral Taylor subsequently requested CCPC action and his request was made a matter of record with the Board on 16 August (USIB-D-64. 6/43). [redacted] noted that in forwarding the request for action to CCPC Admiral Taylor referred specifically to the work already accomplished by COMIREX. The Chairman requested COMIREX to review and revise its previous requirements and be prepared to discuss their viability, or changes that need to be made, in approximately two weeks.

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Excessive Loss of Silver in Photographic Processing (UNCL)

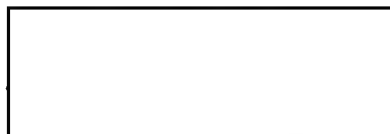
7. The Chairman referred to a recent article describing the tremendous loss of silver being suffered in this country in photographic processing. [] surmised that the amount of this loss which could be attributed directly to satellite photography might be insignificant in terms of the whole picture but was still quite considerable. [] advised that much work has been done on this problem and suggested that [] brief COMIREX on this subject of silver recovery in two or three weeks.

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NRO Report on Warning/Indications Satellite System (S)

8. Following up a question from the DIA member, the Chairman requested that [] see what he can do to expedite forwarding of the NRO warning/indications satellite study to COMIREX. [] pointed out that an understanding of the possibilities of this system seems to become increasingly important and noted that he is obligated to discuss the requirements for such a system at a Land Panel meeting on 2 October.



Executive Secretary

Committee on Imagery Requirements and Exploitation

Attachments
Tabs A & B

Copies 5, 6	State TCO
7	DIA []
8, 9, 10, 11	DIA TCO
12, 13	OACSI TCO
14, 15	ONI TCO
16, 17	AFNIN TCO
18, 19	NSA TCO
20, 21, 22	NRO TCO

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- Copies 1,2 DCI TCO for USIB/S
3 TCO DCI Liaison Officer, SecDef
4 Dr. Donald Steininger, Executive Office Building
23 [Redacted]
24 DDP TCO
25-27 CIA COMIREX Member
28,29 Ch/ICRS
30 Special Center TCO
31 ONE TCO
32 IRS ReqBr/RecceGrp
33 OBI TCO
34-36 D/OSR
37-46 NPIC TCO
47 COMIREX Staff [Redacted]
48 Ch/EXRAND
49 D/IAS
50 TSO CIA
51 DDS&T [Redacted]
52 ASA/DCI/NIPE
53 D/OSI
54 ExSec/SORS/OSI
55 D/ILSS/DDS&T
56 D/OSP
57 D/OEL
58 D/SA
59 D/O/OSA
60 Intel/O/OSA
61 D/FMSAC
62-66 Ch/COMIREX

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